MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 SEPTEMBER 1981

Autonomy Talks

Cairo radio reported that a joint statement issued by the heads of the Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. delegations to the Palestinian autonomy talks in Cairo was read at the conclusion of the final session at a press conference by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. Noting that the talks covered ways of encouraging Palestinian participation and confidence in the Camp David process, the statement said the Egyptian delegation welcomed Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's recent proposals regarding administration of the West Bank and Gaza territories. It also noted that Egypt hopes that Israel will take additional steps to encourage Palestinian participation. Reporting on the joint statement, Jerusalem radio said the statement's reference to drawing Palestinians closer to the negotiating table replaced a demand by Egypt that an article be included "demanding" that Israel take additional measures to enhance Palestinian faith in the Israeli administration. The radio also cited an Israeli Foreign Ministry official in Cairo as saying that Israel and Egypt disagree on 15 issues related to autonomy, including the source of authority of Palestinian self-administration. The official also said West Bank and Gaza Arab public figures, while realizing the advantages of participating in the autonomy plan, are afraid of the PLO reaction their public involvement might elicit. Cairo radio later reported Hasan 'Ali's announcement at the press conference that a timetable for future sessions had also emerged from the talks: 21-29 October in Israel, 9-15 November in Egypt, 2-10 December in Israel, 14-17 December in Egypt and 2-15 January at a site to be determined later.

Egypt

Nuclear Free Zone Call--Cairo radio reported that the Foreign Ministry issued a statement on 25 September that calls for the Middle East to be kept free of nuclear weapons to avoid the exceptional dangers arising from the region's extreme volatility. The statement noted that Egypt's permanent UN representative will provide the outlines of the Egyptian proposals for a nuclear-free zone in a 25 September speech and that Egypt will submit its proposals to the UN General Assembly.

Government Statement on Discipline--According to Cairo radio, the Cabinet issued an eight-clause statement on discipline in Egyptian society that advocates the reactivation of the system whereby a state employee may be temporarily dismissed for negligence at his job and the prevention by university officials of the presence of nonstudents on campuses. The statement also announces the Cabinet's decision to issue guidelines on religious sermons in houses of worship to prevent their being exploited for political purposes.

Coptic Bishop on Rebels--Coptic Church Bishop Anba Samuel denied in a 21 September interview in the MAY newspaper that the Coptic Church has knowledge of alleged secret training being given to Coptic extremists in Phalangist camps in Lebanon, as alleged in a recent issue of MAY, or in any other part of the world. He also said the World Council of Churches has assured him that it has not contributed to the financing of any such scheme.

AWACS Deal

The Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS has called on Saudi Arabia to drop the AWACS deal with the United States "before it is too late." In a 23 September editorial, AL-QABAS said the U.S. Administration has stripped the AWACS destined for the Saudis of all their most sensitive equipment so they have become practically a collection of "skeletons." AL-QABAS asserted that the United States has also doubled the price of each plane and has given Israel a guarantee that it would be allowed to destroy the AWACS if it considered them to be a danger. Another AL-QABAS editorial on 24 September also warned the Saudis against purchasing British Nimrod AEW aircraft as an alternative to AWACS, asserting that the British would similarly downgrade the Nimrods' capabilities.

According to SPA, a Saudi Armed Forces spokesman reacted sharply to AL-QABAS' editorial on the AWACS deal, describing the paper's allegations as a "cheap means of intrigue" and a "tendentious repetition of the campaigns of creating doubt, fabrications and slander pursued by the world Zionist and international communist papers against the Kingdom." He said Saudi experts are able to choose with extreme accuracy the weapons and equipment that the Saudi Air Forces requires.

Libya

Budapest radio reported that on the last day of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's visit to Hungary the Libyan leader and his Hungarian hosts signed a communique and a consular agreement. MTI reported that the communique called for the development of long-term and close cooperation between Hungary and Libya and noted that MSZMP First Secretary Janos Kadar has accepted an invitation to visit Libya.

Iran

Elections--In a message broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni appealed to Iranians to go to the polling stations on election day "united and with the utmost enthusiasm." Asserting that the prestige of the Islamic Republic depends on this, he called on the people to vote for an individual committed to Islam. While Khomeyni did not name his preferred candidate, AFP reported that Majlis Speaker 'Ali 'Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and a number of Cabinet ministers have publicly supported Islamic Republican Party Secretary General 'Ali Khamene'i's candidacy.

Nabavi on Assets--According to Tehran radio, Executive Affairs Minister Behzad Nabavi said in an interview that Iranian assets frozen in the United States amount to $2 billion.

Saudi Attack on Pilgrims--Tehran radio reported that Saudi officials attacked a group of Iranian pilgrims in a Medina mosque, injuring 20 of whom 12 were hospitalized. The incident occurred when the pilgrims protested the arrest of two disabled Iranians and chanted slogans in the Prophet's mosque. In a message to the Saudi minister of pilgrimage affairs and religious trusts, broadcast by the radio, Islamic Guidance Minister 'Abolmajid Ma'adikhah expressed regret over the clash and also noted that the Saudi authorities have imposed "seriously unexpected" restrictions upon Iranian pilgrims in Saudi Arabia. He called on Muslims to create a united community and refrain from actions that will lead to disunity.

According to the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio, the pilgrims consisted of 30 Hezbollahis who called for the overthrow of the Saudi Government during their demonstration. The Saudis arrested those who were not hospitalized, the radio said.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi Armed Forces communique, carried by INA, claimed further successes in the Susangerd area and asserted that Iraqi forces had killed 192 Iranians in the area during a previous battle on 23 September. On the other hand, an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio said Iranian forces repulsed Iraqi attacks west of Susangerd, forcing the enemy back. It detailed operations along a number of other fronts, including a report on fighting in the Panjwin area inside Iraq.

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POLICE BAN ASSEMBLY OF AFGHAN REBEL GROUPS

BK241550 Hong Kong AFP in English 1532 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Quetta, Pakistan, 24 Sep (AFP)--Pakistani police today banned a scheduled meeting of Afghan tribal leaders and refugees called in a bid to halt bloody infighting among various groups opposing the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul.

Organizers of the event said that police had cordoned off the meeting area and set up road blocks around a 15 kilometer radius to keep away the thousands of Afghans expected for the jirga, or assembly. They said that authorities also had barred food deliveries to the area and cut power lines that feed the loudspeaker system.

Local officials confirmed that the meeting had been prohibited but said they had no plans to use force to disperse some 600 Afghans already gathered at a Caravanserai in Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan Province.

The jirga had been called to put an end to fierce clashes among the various rebel groups that have left hundreds of people dead in the past few months in the Afghan provinces of Helmand, Uruzgan and Parvan, organizers said.

"Wherever they are not fighting against the Soviets, the mujahedeen...are fighting among themselves," said Abdul Kuduz Barakzai, a former senator from the Afghan city of Qandahar and a prime mover behind the jirga.

Mr Barakzai charged that the Pakistani move to ban the assembly was the result of pressure by local authorities here plus the Afghan resistance group Hezbi Islami, which he said is financed by Iran.

Some tribal leaders blamed fundamentalist Moslem groups in Pakistan who 2 weeks ago urged the government of President Mohammed Ziaul Haq to cancel the assembly on the grounds it was antithetical to the "holy war."
"They fear us because they are not a significant force in Afghanistan," said a tribal chief, part of a segment of the Afghan population that wants an Islamic republic in his homeland but not a theocratic dictatorship.

Mr Barakzai also had some harsh words for Mr Zia, saying the Pakistani president wanted to "drive a wedge" between the various groups as they jockey for Islamabad's support.

The former senator said that the Afghans gathered here would not leave unless expelled by police. "We will hold our meeting in a tribal zone not controlled by the government or simply do it in Afghan territory," he said.

SHAHI: NO INITIATIVE EXISTS TO STOP IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

GF241300 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 23 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi has informed AL-WATAN that his country is prepared to attend any conference on any level to discuss the Iraq-Iran conflict. Shahi, who is currently attending the UN General Assembly session, added that at this moment there are no initiatives at the level of the Islamic states to stop the Iran-Iraq conflict. He said: "We have arrived at a deadlock."

The Pakistani foreign minister added that his country has fraternal relations with Kuwait and other Gulf states.

NABAVI COMMENTS ON IRANIAN ASSETS IN U.S.

LD242142 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Today, Mr Behzad Nabavi, the minister for executive affairs of the country, in an interview with regard to the frozen assets of Iran in the United States, said: Iran, in the process of hostage taking, had assets of $10-12,000 million which were frozen and have all been returned to Iran now. One thousand million dollars of this sum is presently in the Central Bank of Algeria. The only asset that Iran has in the United States adds up to $2,000 million frozen by the Government of the United States on account of the return of former espionage [word indistinct] in Tehran.

Mr Nabavi further added: What we put significance on is the essence of this issue, rather than this sum of money by itself, and in this regard we have objected and complained to international concerned bodies. He also said: The United States, by occupying the Iranian Embassy in Washington and the expectations in regard with extradition of the embassy of that country to the Swedish Embassy in Tehran, has violated its own commitment, and this is so because this same war has not been reflected in the Algerian statement, and any sort of judging the financial issues between Iran and the United States is to be done by international concerned bodies which have been agreed upon by both countries. [sentence as heard]

Mr Nabavi, in conclusion, in regard to the trip of the Iranian delegation to New York in order to participate in the annual General Assembly of the United Nations, said: In spite of all the plots hatched by the United States, we intend to take part in this session, since our presence in this session of the United Nations is an essential one.

KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES NATION ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

LD242312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 24 Sep 81

[24 September message by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to nation on eve of presidential elections--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Combative and committed Iranian nation: The Islamic Republic is the fruit of your selfless and unsparing sacrifices and endeavours; it is the fruit of endeavours by your valiant sons and esteemed martyrs. It was you who, through the strength of your faith and commitment to Islam and the dear homeland, saved yourselves from the yoke of oppressive kings and the oppressive monarchical regime and its blood-sucking executioners. It was you who, like the heroes of the early Islamic period, staged a gigantic revolution and liberated your country from the dominance of superpowers, particularly that of oppressive, world-devouring America.

You revived and elevated the great Islam which was about to become a tool in the hands of deviates and hypocrites who were turning its progressive precepts into precepts suitable for ignorant people; who intended to ignore the categorical laws contained in the holy Koran in the name of true Islam. You resisted an all-embracing military and propaganda assault, thus traversing in 2 to 3 years a path which would normally take 100 years to travel, hence removing all obstacles before you, realizing the Islamic Republic and all its institutions and dedicating to your country and culture a new, glorious and brilliant life.

It is now up to you, esteemed dear ones, who must safeguard this valuable asset and this divine gift entrusted to you at the cost of the blood of God's eminent prophets and esteemed Islamic combatants as well as the blood of your dear and valiant children. You must endeavour to safeguard it with all your might, through your consistent and courageous efforts, all of you, women, men, children and adults. You must not entertain any doubts about the extensive propaganda from bankrupt individuals--in itself a sign of greatness of your Islamic revolution and a reason for their fear and the fear of the hegemonists and plunderers.

You must go forward with the same enthusiasm and commitment, while resting assured that you shall be victorious and holding your heads high in the world and, at the same time, remaining in high esteem before God Almighty and Islam and its eminent prophets.

Now that we are about to go to polling stations to elect a new president after the demise of an esteemed soldier and a committed servant such as martyr Raja'i, peace be upon his soul, it is necessary for the beloved nation to demonstrate its maturity, perseverance and resistance before the creator and possessor of Islam, before the world, before the astonished eyes of the enemies and ill-wishers of Islam who have made you a target of DIFFERENT accusations and who question the loyalty of you beloved ones who are committed to the Islamic Republic. You must go to the polling stations united and with the utmost enthusiasm; this is a matter on which the prestige of the Islamic Republic and noble nation depends. Therefore, you must go to the polling stations like a roaring wave and rushing sea in united ranks and cast your vote for an individual who is committed to Islam, who is a servant of the country and the nation, who is a guardian of the oppressed masses and who is sagacious in the matter of religion and the world and divorced from any tendency to the East, West and deviationist ideologies and who holds political views.

Today, participation in presidential elections is not only a social and national duty, rather it is a religious, Islamic and divine duty, a defeat in this is tantamount to a defeat for the Islamic Republic whose protection is the greatest need and duty for everyone. Any temptation in this regard comes from the devil or, rather, the agents of the arch-Satan.

Brothers and sisters, approach issues with extreme alertness and with an Islamic-political outlook; avoid deviated individuals' and the enemies of Islam's temptation as well as those affiliated to policies pursued by foreigners. These people want to harm the foundations of the Islamic Republic by any means and capitalize on it in order to achieve their own ends. They want to prevent you from participating in this vital matter on which your own as well as that of your country's prestige depends.

I appeal to the eminent ulema, the esteemed Friday and congregational imams, the committed preachers and orators throughout the country to inform the noble nation about the importance of this vital and destiny-making matter and guide it to fulfill its religious duty. I appeal to writers, speakers, intellectuals, the esteemed professors, the country's teachers and scholars, in whatever group and to whatever principle they adhere, to pay attention to one important issue: Should, God forbid, the Islamic Republic--this fruit of the endeavours of the multitudes of the oppressed masses--be defeated, they must never presume that it would be replaced by a more committed, cooperative, nationalist and Islamic regime. They must know with certainty that it would be replaced with a 100-percent Western and pro-American or Eastern and communist regime, in the hands of one of the superpowers, although it may have a national and Islamic appearance.

Consequently, any obstruction or indifference toward this issue would be tantamount to pushing the country toward one of the two world-devouring poles; it would be tantamount to rendering the blood of our young people and the intolerable hardships of the nation invalid. I call on Islamic institute throughout the country, wherever they are, to familiarize those in contact with them with the importance of the issue.

May God Almighty grant success to the Islamic nation to continue with all its might to promote Islamic objectives. May God grant everyone the opportunity to serve others. God bless you all.

SUPPORT FOR KHAMENE'I PRESIDENCY INCREASES

NC241400 Paris AFP in English 1328 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Tehran, 24 Sep (AFP)--Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i appears certain to win next week's presidential election, as both the press and the Iranian leadership today further boosted his candidacy.

Mr Khamene'i, 41, is one of five presidential candidates to succeed the late Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, who was killed in a bomb attack on August 30. But the other four candidates have virtually faded into the background.

The latest to declare support was Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian parliament, who today described Mr Khamene'i as "the most competent" candidate and a "model Muslim."

The ministers of foreign affairs and national guidance, Hoseyn Musavi and Hojjat ol-Eslam Abolmajid Ma'adikhah, followed suit in backing Mr Khamene'i.

At the same time, today's press published photographs of Mr Khamene'i in military garb.

Mr Khamene'i was himself wounded when a booby-trapped tape recorder blew up in a Tehran mosque on June 28. Hospitalized for a month afterward, he has so far not resumed his duties as leader of Friday prayers.

Today, one of his supporters referred for the first time to details of his injuries. Speaking to the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC newspaper, the supporter, an MP, said: "Some complain that the president should have his right hand in good condition and that this candidate has been mutilated. But the most important thing is to think right, be virtuous and be a good manager. In any case, he can always sign with his left hand."

In the presidential campaign, it was believed that the Islamic Republic Party might use the same system as during the run-up to the July 24 election of Mr Raja'i. In such a case, Mr Khamene'i's rivals might take advantage of television appearances beginning Saturday to declare their support. In the July campaign, similar declarations of support for the "most competent" candidate were depicted officially as a model of democracy at work.

Three of the other candidates are, like Mr Khamene'i, members of the Islamic Republic Party Central Committee. The fourth, Prime Minister Mahdavi-Kani, has so far attracted no public backers.

The ISLAMIC REPUBLIC newspaper today interviewed Mr Khamene'i in his capacity as member and spokesman of the Supreme Defense Council.

In the interview, Mr Khamene'i hotly attacked former President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, accusing him of responsibility for the loss of Khuninshahr (formerly Khorramshahr), Iran's most important port before the war with Iraq. "Bani-Sadr made fun of those who sought reinforcements for Khuninshahr or silenced them," he alleged. "I can prove before neutral military experts that we could have kept Khuninshahr, as we kept Ahvaz," Mr Khamene'i said.

MATERIALS CONCERNING INTERNAL OPPOSITION

Servicemen Sentenced

PM240819 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Sep 81 p 15

[PARS report: "Revolution Court in Khorasan Hands Down Jail Sentences to Six Military Personnel"]

[Text] Mashhad--The Islamic Revolution Court for the military in Khorasan has handed down sentences as follows to six accused persons:

1. Private 'Abbas Bakhtiari, son of Mohammad Reza, charged with supporting the "hypocrites" organization and engaging in activities and propaganda in favor of that organization, was convicted of waging war on God, but as a result of his repentance and remorse at his past deeds, he received one degree of mitigation and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

2. and 3. Air Force Homafar 2d Class Hoseyn Vatanpur, son of Mohammad, and Air Force Homafar Ahmad Taqizadeh-Kashani, son of Ardeshir, both stationed at the Dr Shari'ati base in Mashhad, went on trial charged with supporting the "hypocrites" organization, spreading its deviationist ideas and circulating falsehoods at the base with the aim of weakening the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They were sentenced to dismissal from the air force, 13 months' penal servitude and deprivation of civil rights, but since they are family men they were ordered to serve only 6 months and the remainder of the sentence was suspended for 2 years.

4. Air Force Sergeant 1st Class Seyyed Hoseyn Nowzan, son of Seyyed 'Ali, stationed at the Shahrabad airbase at Bojnurd, went on trial charged with using narcotics, consuming alcoholic beverages, spreading falsehoods and insulting the Islamic Republic of Iran. He was sentenced to 80 lashes to be administered in two sessions, the canonical penalty for drinking liquor, and dismissal from the air force and 6 months' correctional imprisonment, of which 61 days were ordered served and the remainder suspended for 2 years.

5. Third Lieutenant Habibollah Hojjatollah Forughi, of the Khorasan Police Department, went on trial charged with a number of counterrevolutionary activities, insulting the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and defending the deviationist stance of antipeople minigroups. He was sentenced to be dismissed from the Police Department and given 2 years correctional imprisonment.

6. Second Lieutenant Hamid Reza Jalayer of the Khorasan Police Department went on trial charged with insulting Hezbollahi, assaulting and abusing them, supporting counterrevolutionary groups and collaborating in the escape of two counterrevolutionaries. He was dismissed from the Police Department and sentenced to 6 months' penal servitude.

The sentences passed were put into effect.

LD241232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] By the verdict of the Islamic Revolution Courts of Rudsar, Qa'emshahr, Mashhad, Rasht, Khorramabad and Qom, 20 active members of the hypocrites organization and other American minigroups were found guilty of waging war on God and engaging in defiance on charges of participating in armed demonstrations and sabotage, causing explosions, assassinating or assaulting defenseless people, setting fire to public premises and transport, robbing banks, corrupting and luring innocent people, forming teams and possessing weapons and explosives and were sentenced to death. The sentences were carried out.

The person responsible for the assassination of Hojjat ol-Eslam Kamyab, the Majlis deputy from Mashhad, was among those executed.

Safe House Discovered

LD241254 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following the arrest of two armed hypocrite organization members in Shiraz, one safe house, which was their publications center, was discovered with large quantities of printing and copying equipment.

Attack on Guards Building

GF241614 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Two terrorists armed with Kalashnikovs fired at the cultural division office of the Neyshabur Islamic Revolution Guard Corps at 1900 yesterday and then escaped.

A brother member of Neyshabur's Qa'em Mosque was wounded in the incident and was immediately taken to the hospital.

Discoveries in Shiraz

GF241646 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Following the arrest of two armed hypocrites by the Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guard Corps yesterday, a safe house and a supply warehouse belonging to these U.S. mercenaries were also discovered. According to the report, the house was a center for printing various publications of the antimasses hypocrite minigroup. A large amount of printing equipment and stationery was discovered inside the house. The walls of the house were covered with acoustic (?material) and sonic equipment [as heard] was installed inside it.

The method of discovery, details on the equipment and the number of arrests made will be reported later.

Call to Demonstrate

GF240958 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Sep 81

["Text" of call issued by the struggling fronts and organizations in Iraq on the first anniversary of the war between Iran and Iraq--no date given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. "And who so respects the sacred signs of God, that indeed proceeds from the righteousness of hearts." "Who so transgresses against you, punish him for his transgression to the extent to which he has transgressed against you." [Koranic verses]

We call on all struggling sons of Iraq--from all who are refugees and exiles--to demonstrate to mark the first anniversary of the aggressive Saddamist war against the Islamic Republic of Iran. This war has killed tens of thousands of the sons of the two Muslim countries--Iran and Iraq. It has destroyed economic and vital installations and houses of innocent people. This was committed by Saddam's hands in service of Anglo-U.S. plots in the region.

We call on them to demonstrate on Friday, 25 September 1981. The gathering will be at 0800 in Imam Khomeyni Square. The demonstration will start at 0830 and will proceed to Ferdowsi Square. Afterward the demonstrators will proceed to Tehran University where Friday prayers will be held. We call on our faithful Iraqi brothers to participate in this demonstrations in expression of solidarity with the mounting Muslim revolution in Iraq, in denunciation of the aggressive war against the Islamic Republic of Iran and in embodiment of the path that has been defined by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the nation. This will show that this war will only end with the defeat of the aggressive Saddamist army and retreat behind the border. This will also herald the downfall of the regime of tyrant Saddam and the establishment of an Islamic government in our dear Iraq. "And God will surely help those who support His cause." [Koranic verse]

[Signed] The struggling ulema in Iraq, the Muslim Ad-Da'wah Party, the Iraqi mujahidin front, the imam's soldiers front

Radio Iran on Clashes

NC240853 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] A group of freedom fighters attacked the revolution guards headquarters in Shahi. In the strong clashes that followed, one mercenary was killed while eight others were seriously wounded. After their successful act, the combatants returned to their base without suffering any losses.

(?The extent of the losses suffered by the Islamic regime's army) was so great that the clergymen declared 3 days of Islamic mourning.

The various strata of the Iranian people have intensified their struggles against the Islamic Republic on various levels. In Mashhad three Iranian combatants killed an agent of the regime who was responsible for the rationing of oil and was selling (?ration) coupons on the black market. In clashes between the regime's revolution guards and a combatant youth, the latter was wounded and arrested. Two young girls who had hurled incendiary bombs at the shop of a regime supporter were also arrested. The regime claimed that these youths carried anti-Islamic regime leaflets and intended to start demonstrations.

The Islamic regime also reported that in Khalkhal, eight youths have been arrested on charges of membership in the Mojahedin-e Khalq and Peykar organizations. The Islamic regime announced that in Malayer and Astara a large number of anti-regime leaflets have been discovered.

Ahvaz Liberation Front

GF241355 (Clandestine) Ahvaz Voice of Al-Qadisiyah in Arabic 0625 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Statement issued by the preparatory committee for the establishment of the Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz on 22 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Oh sons of our Arab nation in Ahvaz Province! Oh masses of our Arab nation! Oh free people of the world!
On this day, 22 September 1981, and on the first anniversary of the decisive revolutionary defeat fraternal Iraq has dealt to the powers of aggression and arrogance in Tehran--the deadly blow the heroes of the 20th century have inflicted upon the Persian racists--the preparatory committee for the establishment of the Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz has elected the front's new leadership as follows:

1. Sayyid Hashim Sayyid 'Adnan, chairman
2. Baqir [name indistinct], vice chairman
3. Mahmud Husayn al-Jari, secretary
4. [name indistinct] Mubarak al-Ka'bi, member
5. Saddam Hamid ash-Shahr Juwayzat, member
6. Hashim Rafraf al-Faysali, member
7. [name indistinct] Jarhan at-Tursi, member
8. [name indistinct] Jilawi, member
9. [name indistinct] Dari, member
10. Mansur Fallahi, member
11. [name indistinct] Kifah 'Ali, member

The Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz embodies all the aspirations and expectations of our Arab people in Ahvaz Province in this new and unifying struggle [word indistinct].

It has begun its political and organizational (?struggle) under the leadership of the Arab masses in Ahvaz. This armed struggle and resistance will liberate all of Ahvaz from the occupation, which is more than 58-years old.

Oh our revolutionary people in the Arab province of Ahvaz! The new leadership of the front pledges to the free revolutionaries and strugglers that it will be the vanguard of the strugglers. It will proceed with you in the revolution toward the goal for which our free heroes have been martyred and for which our eternal revolution has been established.

The leadership pledges to continue its efforts and to continue making sacrifices. Eternity and glory for our revolution's free and devout martyrs! Victory for our armed resistance against the occupying Persian racists! Let our slogan be: Resistance until liberation.

[Signed] The Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz, 22 September 1981

More on Aryana Call

NC241055 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] During the past 24 hours hundreds of copies of Gen Bahram Aryana's latest message have been distributed in various garrisons. A Voice of Iran correspondent who dispatched this report adds that in this message General Aryana has asked the armed forces to rise at a favorable time to topple Ruhollah Khomeyni's anti-Iranian regime. Gen Bahram Aryana has stressed in his message that he is confident that the zealous Iranian Army can save the country from Khomeyni's (?calamity). General Aryana has also called on all patriots, especially the tribes, to support the Iranian Army and to join hands in overthrowing the usurping regime.

The Voice of Iran's military correspondent adds: General Aryana's new message has renewed hope and strength among the armed forces and various cadres of the armed forces. Especially the ground forces consider General Aryana [words indistinct], among the most (?decisive) officers and the most (?suitable) officer to command the armed forces in any operation against the Khomeyni regime.

According to reports received, General Aryana is now establishing his command council and is in contact with other commanders and officers. General Aryana has also had talks with the leaders of (Shahsavand) tribe and leaders of a number of Kurdish tribes in the Shapur area of Western Azarbayjan.

FALLAHI HOLDS TALKS WITH GUARDS CORPS COMMANDER

LD241854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Excerpts] A joint meeting was held today by commanders of the Revolution Guards Corps and the Islamic Republic Armed Forces at the invitation of the Revolution Guards Corps. The purpose of the meeting was to establish more coordination.

At the conclusion of the meeting, acting chief of the Joint Staff Brigadier General Fallahi and Commander of the Revolution Guards Corps Mohsen Reza'i answered questions put to them by a Central News Unit correspondent. Commenting on the purpose of the meeting, the commander of the Revolution Guards Corps said:

[Begin Reza'i recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. After my appointment, my new responsibility by the imam of the nation in which I was asked to establish coordination between the military, security and revolution guards, arrangements were made for this meeting to deal with certain problems, including the acceleration of the pace of the war, ending the war, more practical coordination between the corps and the army and long-term plans. These plans, once, God willing, the war is ended, will be implemented outside Iran within the context of the revolution's essential aims. These issues were raised during the meeting. [end recording]

Brigadier General Fallahi was also asked to discuss what issues were considered during the meeting.

[Begin Fallahi recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to the martyrs and the imam. In this meeting, the outcome of the Iraq-imposed war on Iran was reviewed with our brothers in the Revolution Guards Corps.

We discussed the lessons learned from these operations in the war against Iraq, the experiences gained, the achievements and, finally, the rational and logical efficiency and capabilities of the corps and the army, aimed at shortening the sinister life of this war. In this context we arrived at favorable conclusions.

We also reached agreement on crushing the aggressor, reducing the aggressor's combat readiness and, eventually, the toppling of the hated Ba'th regime. This agreement dealt with the issues in general terms; as for the details, the various staffs will begin putting them into action beginning tomorrow morning, with the outcomes being witnessed, God willing, in the near future. [end recording]

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 647 REPORTS SITUATION

LD241906 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Communique 647 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The results of the battle waged in the past 2 days by the self-sacrificing combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran against the aggressive forces of the Iraqi Army and the situation on the battlefronts are brought to the attention of the heroic and grateful Iranian Muslim nation:

Following the offensive operations carried out in the past 48 hours and the crushing blows dealt by the brave combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Iraqi forces in the Panjwin area in Iraq, our strong and faithful combatants brought the Sayyid Sadiq and Bani Banuk garrisons and also several posts and other positions and fortifications of the Iraqi forces under heavy-artillery and mortar fire and destroyed a considerable amount of their armor. Most of the enemy's supply routes in the Panjwin area are now under our control. The enemy bases and casualties in these operations consisted of the destruction of three tanks, six personnel carriers, three 130-mm guns, an ammunition dump, a mortar and a squad tent. Meanwhile, four enemy buildings in the Sayyid Sadiq garrison in Iraq were set on fire and destroyed. The number of enemy dead and wounded has not yet been determined.

Exchanges of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued yesterday on most of the western fronts, in particular on the Nowsud, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Meymak, Mehran and Shur-e Shirin fronts. The combatants of the ground forces and the heroes of the gendarmerie returned the enemy fire, silencing the Iraqi guns and inflicting losses on the enemy.

The zealous combatants of the tribal and irregular warfare forces strongly guarded their positions and brought the Iraqi forces under fire.

On the Shur-e Shirin front, the combatants of the ground forces rained artillery and heavy-weapon fire on the enemy positions, stopping all the enemy engineering activities of the enemy and the bulldozers of the Iraqi forces and forcing the enemy to flee the area.

On the western Susangerd front, the self-sacrificing combatants of the ground forces repulsed the enemy attacks on this region and forced the Iraqis back; our forces also rained heavy-artillery fire on the positions of the Saddamist mercenaries, inflicting heavy casualties on them.

On the western Dezful front, the devotees of the ground forces carried out a series of guerrilla operations, penetrating the enemy's positions and killing a number of the Iraqi forces.

Yesterday exchange of fire continued sporadically on the Mahshahr-Abadan and Darkhovin fronts, the artillery and heavy-weapon fire of our combatants inflicted the following losses on the enemy:

Destruction of a tank, 5 observation posts, a supplies warehouse, 2 heavy-machinegun trenches, 12 vehicles, a number of which carried ammunition, a mortar, 3 ammunition dumps, 2 heavy machineguns and a number of foxholes and slit trenches.

On the Khuninshahr front,the heroes of the navy, opening fire on the positions of the aggressive forces of Saddam's army, destroyed an assembly point and a number of light-and heavy-weapon trenches and killed or wounded a number of the enemy.

On the Abadan front, the combat unit of the police, returning enemy fire and crushing his positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab] inflicted relatively heavy losses on the enemy, killing a number of Iraqi elements.

Yesterday, a number of the intruding aircraft of the Iraqi Army, which intended to attack the southern border cities, confronted a barrage of fire from our units and were forced to flee.

The cities of Abadan and Ahvaz suffered casualties yesterday from continual fire by the enemy's long-range artillery.

At 0530 yesterday morning two Muslim and committed soldiers of the Iraqi Army courageously swam across the Arvand Rud, surrendered to the personnel of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran and sought asylum. They were warmly welcomed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

SAUDIS ATTACK IRANIAN PILGRIMS IN MEDINA

LD241146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Text] Following the resistance which was offered over the arrest of two people who had been disabled during the revolution, in Medina at 0100 today Saudi officials attacked the prophet's mosque in Medina, which led to the wounding of a number of pilgrims from our country.

According to a report from a PARS correspondent in Saudi Arabia, this attack took place when Iranian pilgrims protested the arrest of two people who had been disabled during the revolution and started chanting slogans and saying "God is great" in the prophet's mosque. In response, the Saudi officials attacked the Iranian pilgrims and began beating and injuring them. According to this report, about 20 of the pilgrims to God's house received injuries to their heads and chests and 12 of them have been hospitalized.

An officials of the Red Crescent in Medina expressed regret over this incident and said that this is the first time that the pilgrims to the house of God have been treated like this in the prophet's mosque. He added that, thank God, the condition of the injured is satisfactory and there is no need for the slightest concern.

Ma'adikhah Message

LD241200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Sep 81

[Message from 'Abolmajid Ma'adikhah, minister of Islamic guidance, to the Saudi minister of pilgrimage affairs and religious trust; date not given]

[Text] In His exalted name. Your Excellency, minister of pilgrimage affairs and religious trusts of Saudi Arabia: God's greetings and peace be upon you. With respect, I have received with great regret the report about the clash of the security officials of Saudi Arabia in the sacred abode of God's prophet. Other reports indicate that there have been special restrictions imposed upon Iranian pilgrims on other occasions, which are seriously unexpectd.

Our hope is that the Muslims, inspired by the philosophy and spirit of pilgrimage to Mecca and by following the esteemed companions of the prophet of God--"those who are with him are harsh with the infidels but are compassionate to one another [Koranic verse]--will create a united community against the world devourers from the East and West and against predatory Zionism, and should refrain from actions which will lead to disunity. Greetings to all God's righteous servants.

[Signed] 'Abolmajid Ma'adikhah, minister of Islamic guidance

UK CORRESPONDENT ON FLIGHT OF IRANIANS TO PAKISTAN

PM241429 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 24 Sep 81 p 6

[John Fullerton dispatch: "Desert Village Is Gateway for Iranian Refugees"]

[Text] Taftan, on the Pakistan-Iran border--One hundred people a day are estimated to cross illegally this remote, desert frontier in an attempt to flee Iran's internal strife, according to officials in Taftan.

The Iranian authorities have substantially increased their military presence in the border area to stem the flow. Army units, revolutionary guards and members of an Iranian students' organisation man the route.

It is the only official overland route between the two countries.

Major Asif Usman, commander of a unit of the Kharran Rifles, a Pakistani militia force, said internal security in Iran had deteriorated alarmingly. Mr Abdur Rahman, chief customs officer at Taftan, estimated the number of Iranians trying to escape each day without visas at about 100.

Mr Rahman showed me sacks of confiscated literature from Iran including Marxist booklets condemning the resistance movement in Afghanistan, religious tracts and posters depicting President Reagan and President Brezhnev as "partners in crime" carving up the world between them.

Mr Abdul Aziz Lazzi, a Pakistani political agent based at Nushki along the 500-mile desert road to Taftan said several Soviet-bloc personnel had entered the area under false pretences in recent months.

Four weeks ago an East European journalist had infiltrated sparsely-populated Baluchistan disguised as a Baluch tribesman.

At Taftan it was clear that Iran no longer provided Pakistan-based Afghan refugees with opportunities for well-paid work. Not only has border control been tightened, but work is hard to find.

The exchange rate is also unfavourable. During the past year it has steadily fallen from 2,500 to 600 Iranian rials for 100 Pakistani rupees.

Mr Abdal Rahman, an Afghan refugee from Quetta, said it was now difficult to enter Iran.

Major Usman said he had received reports that Afghans moving through Iran to reach north-western Afghanistan to fight the Soviet occupation forces had been pressed by the Iranians to fight in their war against Iraq.

Taftan, a dusty, stone-strewn desert village populated mainly by flies and goats, has always been part of a traditional smuggling route because Baluch tribes live in the three countries whose borders all meet at Ribat 80 miles to the north.

Two days before my visit, the Pakistan customs seized 92 lb of heroin hidden under the floor of a jeep en route to Iran.

An officer of the Pakistan federal intelligence agency, the local equivalent of the FBI, confirmed that people who specialised in the smuggling of illegal immigrants were occasionally caught.

CLANDESTINE RADIO ON TURKISH-IRANIAN BORDER CLASH

NC240842 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] Two Turkish soldiers have been killed and four wounded in a border clash between Iran and Turkey. Foreign news agencies report that the clash between the Turkish Armed Forces and Iranian border guards occurred when revolution guards of the Tehran regime infiltrated Turkish territory. Following this border aggression by Khomeyni's antinational regime, the Turkish military government immediately sent a combat unit to the Iranian border. During a resulting clash the Turkish forces chased the revolution guards back into Iran. It is said that the border clash between Iran and Turkey [words indistinct].

Armed forces opposing Khomeyni's regime (?control parts) of Western Azarbayjan and [words indistinct] bases from their positions. [Words indistinct] of officers and NCO's of the liberation forces in border areas within Iran are ready to inflict the last blows to the mullahs' regime. The (?aggression) of the revolution guards against Turkish territory was carried out with the hopes of finding Iran's armed liberation forces. However, the combatant forces are not based in a (?specific) area on the Iranian-Turkish border but throughout Iran --in the south, north, east and west. In all these areas combat units of the liberation forces are ready to inflict the last blow to Khomeyni's antinational regime. The (?Turkish combat units) are now stationed in bases on the borders with Iran.

TALKS HELD ON TRANSPORTATION OF USSR IMPORTS

LD231550 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the deputy assistant minister of roads and transport and the supervisor of the country's Committee for the Coordination of Transportation Affairs of the Economic Mobilization Headquarters, who had gone to Jolfa with the committee members to review problems of loading, unloading and transportation goods, attended an extraordinary session of the transportation committee. This session was also attended by local authorities. During the session, the necessary decisions were made to prepare the local organizations for faster loading and unloading of products imported through Jolfa customs.

According to this report, it was announced that Iran state railway is prepared to accept 300 carloads per day of USSR imports.

SOVIET WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN DEMANDED

GF250835 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 23 Sep 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Qandahar is again under the control of the Afghan mojahedin following violent clashes between the Muslim Afghan mojahedin and the aggressive Soviet and state forces. Soviet troops have been forced to withdraw to the airport on the outskirts of the city. This latest victory achieved by the Muslim mojahedin with the support of the Qandahar residents has followed the success of the mojahedin in checking Soviet offensives in other cities.

Regardless of the support it receives from the 85,000 aggressive Soviet military personnel, the failure of the Afghan state to rout the Muslim Afghan mojahedin and to stop the struggle they are waging to defend their religion and the independence of their homeland has forced it to recall discharged officers and men under 36 to strengthen the ranks of its own forces.

The call made by the Afghan state, which enjoys neither sympathy nor support from the people, has led to strong reaction in the form of widespread demonstrations. Regrettably, however, the demonstrations of the Afghan people have been violently crushed by Afghan state forces using armed military vehicles. Undoubtedly, the action resorted to by these forces was aimed at enhancing the authority of the Babrak Karmal government which, with the support and aggression of the Soviet Union, attacks the poor Afghan people and ignores all their rights.

It must be stressed, however, that certain disagreements on tactical matters and differences in opinion have prevented the establishment of absolute unity between the Muslim groups fighting against the Afghan state, and the lack of this unity has helped the aligned Afghan state make certain gains. Permitting these disagreements to spread will render the waging of a successful struggle against the aggressive forces impossible.

Nevertheless, the continuation of the struggle and the failure of the efforts made to resolve the current Afghan crisis have forced the Afghan state to seek help from its neighbors and international organizations. In fact, Babrak Karmal has once again appealed to Iran and Pakistan to hold a conference to resolve the Afghan crisis--a conference in which the United Nations would also be represented.

However, the demand for an international guarantee of no foreign interference has eliminated the chances of reaching a just and peaceful solution to the Afghan question. This demand by the Soviet Union is indeed very interesting. The Soviet Union has probably forgotten about its aggressive forces in Afghanistan. Otherwise, it would not have mentioned foreign interference. It is common knowledge that the reason Soviet imperialism is daunted by the idea of foreign interference is that foreign interference may result in the withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan. It is common knowledge that the question is one of Soviet aggression. And, if the aligned Afghan state and the Soviet Union cherish good will and want to prove their sincerity, they will have to agree that the first condition for the settlement of the Afghan question is the complete withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan.

PARS: AFGHAN MOJAHEDIN DOWN 4 SOVIET AIRCRAFT

LD211226 Tehran PARS in English 1055 GMT 21 Sep 81

[Text] Tehran, 20 Sep (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--Muslim fighters in the Farah Province of Afghanistan have downed four army aircraft of the invading Soviet forces and destroyed two tanks and one personnel carrier in the wake of a week-long clash with the government forces.

It was also reported that Afghan Muslim Mojahedin killed at least 150 of the state soldiers in the course of armed clashes during the week ending Sunday September 20th.

The Afghan Mojahedin have also seized five artillery pieces, two Kalashnikovs and a considerable amount of ammunition.

About 30 of the mojahedin were reported killed or wounded in these clashes.